Geological survey of Malabar.

* 1332 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any scheme to conduct a geological survey to explore the mineral resources of Malabar district; and

(*b*) if so, the attempts so far made in that direction?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, Sir, the Geological Survey of India Department of the Government of India have reported that the mineral survey of the Malabar district is now in progress. The occurrence of lignite and mica near Cannanore and amethyst in Kollengode has already been examined by the Geological Survey of India in 1944."

Reduction of ferry charges in South Kanara.

* 1333 *Q.*—SRI L. C. PAIS (on behalf of Sri T. Ananta Pai): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the request made to Hon. the Finance Minister during his last visit to South Kanara to reduce the present ferry charges to the pre-war level; and

(*b*) if so, what decisions have been arrived at?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Representations were made to the Minister for Finance to reduce the present ferry charges to pre-war level.

" (*b*) On an examination of the question, it has been decided there are no grounds to reduce the ferry charges."

Starting of a college in Mayuram.

* 1334 *Q.*—SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any application from the trustees of Ambanathapuram Charities to start a college in Mayuram; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have not received any application from the trustees of the charities. But it is understood that the trustees are considering the question of starting a college."